

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

OMB-01 SAM-01 AID-05 (ISO) W

----- 022490

R 060835Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4977

INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

DIA WASHDC

UCINCEUR, VAIHINGEN, GER

COMSIXTHFLT

COMIDEASTFOR

FOSIF ROTA, SPAIN

COMNAVINTCOM, ALEXANDRIA, VA

CINCUSNAVEUR, LONDON, UK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 9093

AMCONSUL PORT SAID SENDS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, EG

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS OF ADDITIONAL SOUTHBOUND CONVOY DENIED

1. MOHAMED SASI, DIRECTOR OF SECURITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY PORT SAID, TOLD ME THAT CONTRARY TO PRESS REPORTS THE SCA DOES NOT INTEND TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL DAILY SOUTHBOUND CONVOY UNTIL ON-GOING CANAL DREDGING AND WIDENING PROJECT COMPLETES WORK ON BALLAH BY-PASS SOMETIME IN 1977. ACCORDING TO SASI, THE CANAL AUTHORITY HAS MADE THIS DECISION ON BASIS OF: (1) SCA NEEDS MORE TIME TO TRAIN PILOTS,(2) IT IS LESS EXPENSIVE TO OPERATE ONLY ONE CONVOY EACH WAY, AND (3) UNTIL BALLAH BY-PASS IS FINISHED, TRANSITING VESSELS WOULD NOT SAVE TIME DUE TO PROBLEMS IN SCHEDULING.

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2. SASI ADDED THAT NUMBER OF VESSELS TRANSITING CANAL AT PRESENT

DOES NOT WARRANT EXTRA SOUTHBOUND CONVOY, BUT DECISION TO STICK WITH PRESENT SYSTEM OF ONE SOUTHBOUND CONVOY EACH DAY COULD BE CHANGED IF TRAFFIC INCREASED APPRECIABLY.

3. MY READING OF SASI'S REMARKS IS THAT SCA IS ANXIOUS TO IMPRESS ON PUBLIC SUCCESS OF CANAL. THIS, IN TURN, LEADS TO OVERSTATEMENT AND ERRONEOUS PRESS STORIES. SIGNED SURBER.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMERGENCY EVACUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760259-0813
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760789/aaaadain.tel
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Review Content Flags:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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